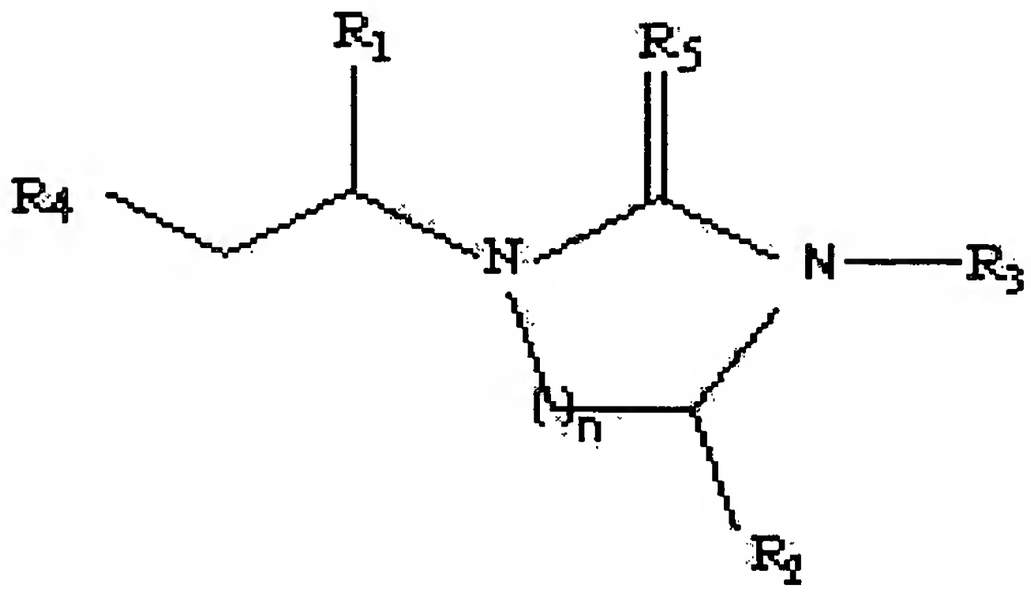
What is claimed is:

1. A composition of matter comprising a compound having the following structural formula:



wherein,

R_1 and R_2 are selected from H, a hydrocarbyl having up to 20 carbon atoms, and a hydrocarbyl having up to 20 carbon atoms and substituted with a group selected from hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, substituted amino, thio, alkylthio, guanidino, ureido and heterocyclyl;

R_3 is selected from a hydrocarbyl having up to 20 carbon atoms, and a hydrocarbyl having up to 20 carbon atoms and substituted with a group selected from halo, haloalkyl, hydroxy, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylenedioxy, amino, substituted amino, aminoalkyl, thio, alkylthio, guanidino, ureido, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, and heteroarylthio;

R_4 is a substituted amino, $-NR_6R_7$, wherein R_6 and R_7 are selected from H and a hydrocarbyl having up to 20 carbon atoms; R_6 and R_7, with inclusion of N, may combine to form a heterocyclic ring such as indolinyl having the formula

R_5 is selected from O, S, NH, N-alkyl, N-alkenyl, N-alkynyl, N-cycloalkyl, N-aryl and N-aralkyl, and

n is 1 to 3.

2. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises a straight chain hydrocarbyl.

3. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises a branched chain hydrocarbyl.

4. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises a saturated hydrocarbyl.

5. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises an unsaturated hydrocarbyl.

6. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises a cyclic hydrocarbyl.

7. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises an acyclic hydrocarbyl.

8. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises a chiral hydrocarbyl.

9. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises an achiral hydrocarbyl.

10. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises a substituted hydrocarbyl.

11. A composition according to claim 1, wherein one or more methylene groups of a hydrocarbyl group of R3 is replaced by an oxygen atom.

12. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is selected from alkyl and aminoalkyl.

13. A composition according to claim 1, where R_1 is (S)-Methyl, (R)-Methyl or (S)-Propyl.

14. A composition according to claim 1, where R_1 is (S)-Aminopropyl.

15. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R_2 is selected from (R)-Aminomethyl-(imino)-propyl, (S)-Aminomethyl-(imino)-propyl or (S)-Methylthiomethyl.

16. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R_3 is alkyl, aralkyl or substituted aralkyl.

17. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R_3 is 3-bromophenethyl.

18. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R_3 is 3,5 bis-(trifluoromethyl)phenethyl.

19. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R_4 is aralkylamino.

20. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R_4 is benzylamino

21. A composition according to claim 1, wherein r_6 and r_7 with inclusion of n, is heterocyclyl.

22. A composition according to claim 1, wherein $-nr_6r_7$ is isoindolinyl having the formula

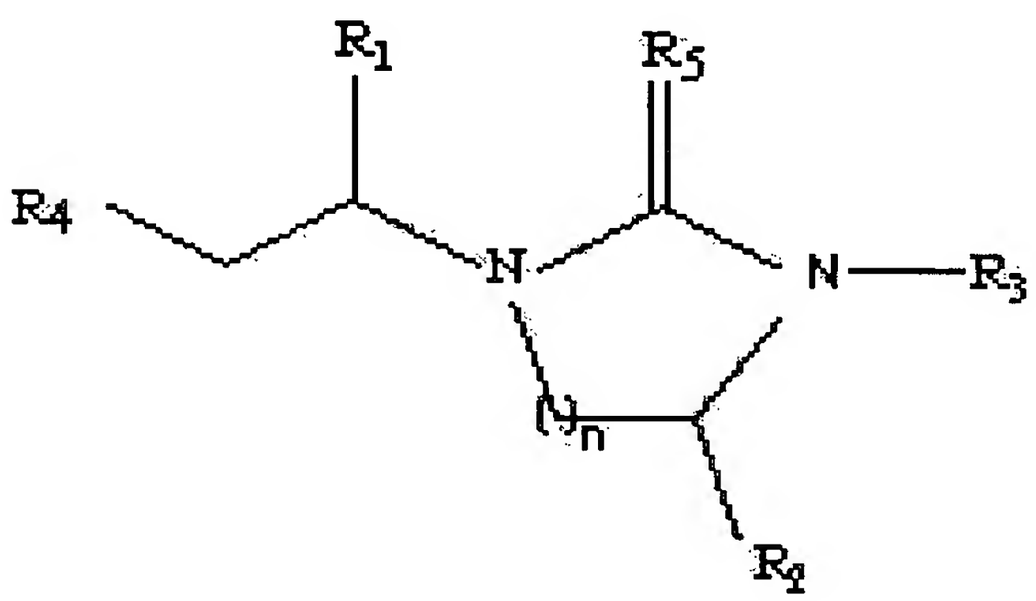
23. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R_5 is S.

24. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R_5 is O.

25. The use of a composition according to any of claims 1-22 in the manufacture of preparation for administration to a human or animal subject to block or antagonize MCH receptors or to decrease food intake or to treat obesity, a metabolic disorder, an eating disorder, depression or urinary incontinence.

26. A method for a) blocking or antagonizing MCH receptors or b) decreasing food intake or c) treating obesity, a metabolic disorder, an eating disorder, depression or urinary incontinence, said method comprising the step of:

administering to the individual an effective amount of a composition that comprises a compound having the following structural formula:



wherein,

R_1 and R_2 are selected from H, a hydrocarbyl having up to 20 carbon atoms, and a hydrocarbyl having up to 20 carbon atoms and substituted with a group selected from hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, substituted amino, thio, alkylthio, guanidino, ureido and heterocyclyl;

R_3 is selected from a hydrocarbyl having up to 20 carbon atoms, and a hydrocarbyl having up to 20 carbon atoms and substituted with a group selected from halo, haloalkyl, hydroxy, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylenedioxy, amino, substituted amino,

aminoalkyl, thio, alkylthio, guanidino, ureido, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, and heteroarylthio;

R_4 is a substituted amino, $-NR_6R_7$, wherein R_6 and R_7 are selected from H and a hydrocarbyl having up to 20 carbon atoms; R_6 and R_7, with inclusion of N, may combine to form a heterocyclic ring such as indolinyl, having the formula

R_5 is selected from O, S, NH, N-alkyl, N-alkenyl, N-alkynyl, N-cycloalkyl, N-aryl and N-aralkyl, and

n is 1 to 3.

27. A method according to claim 26, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises a straight chain hydrocarbyl.

28. A method according to claim 26, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises a branched chain hydrocarbyl.

29. A method according to claim 26, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises a saturated hydrocarbyl.

30. A method according to claim 26, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises an unsaturated hydrocarbyl.

31. A method according to claim 26, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises a cyclic hydrocarbyl.

32. A method according to claim 26, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises an acyclic hydrocarbyl.

33. A method according to claim 26, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises a chiral hydrocarbyl.

34. A method according to claim 26, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises an achiral hydrocarbyl.

35. A method according to claim 26, wherein R1, R2, R3, R6 or R7 comprises a substituted hydrocarbyl.

36. A method according to claim 26, wherein one or more methylene groups of a hydrocarbyl group of R3 is replaced by an oxygen atom.

37. A method according to claim 26, wherein R_1 is selected from alkyl and aminoalkyl.

38. A method according to claim 26, where R_1 is (S)-Methyl, (R)-Methyl or (S)-Propyl.

39. A method according to claim 26, where R_1 is (S)-Aminopropyl.

40. A method according to claim 26, wherein R_2 is selected from (R)-Aminomethyl-(imino)-propyl, (S)-Aminomethyl-(imino)-propyl or (S)-Methylthiomethyl.

41. A method according to claim 26, wherein R_3 is alkyl, aralkyl or substituted aralkyl.

42. A method according to claim 26, wherein R_3 is 3-bromophenethyl.

43. A method according to claim 26, wherein R_3 is 3,5 bis-(trifluoromethyl)phenethyl.

44. A method according to claim 26, wherein R_4 is aralkylamino.

45. A method according to claim 26, wherein R_4 is benzylamino

46. A method according to claim 26, wherein r_6 and r_7 with inclusion of n, is heterocyclyl.

47. A method according to claim 26, wherein $-nr_6r_7$ is isoindolinyl having the formula

48. A method according to claim 26, wherein R_5 is S.

49. A method according to claim 26, wherein R_5 is O.